

INSIDE:

OCTOBER SPORTS LAUNCH NEWS
RESULTS OF THE NEW JERSEY
PERMIT BALLOT.

SECTION NEWS AND MORE

LAUNCH RACK

"ALIS VOLAT PROPRIIS"

VOL. 7 ISSUE 40

NOVEMBER 1987

Jack Sarhage, Editor
875 River Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854

The LAUNCH RACK is the official publication of the Garden State Space-modeling Society (Section 439 of the National Association of Rocketry) and is published monthly (except for combined issues May/June and July/August) for the enlightenment and entertainment of the membership.

Others interested in receiving this publication may do so for the yearly subscription rate of \$5.00. Please send this fee to the editor.

The Editor invites and encourages all to submit articles, photographs, plans, etc. to be included.

The deadline for material to be published in the next issue is November 24, 1987.

Your Status:

- () Your subscription ends with this issue.
- () If and "X" appears in this space it is time to think about renewing your GSSS membership. It expires on _____.



Editor's CLIPPINGS

"Compared to other fields, the science of Aeronautics has progressed at a rate that is little less than sensational."

Igor Sikorsky
(Pioneer flying boat
and helicopter designer)

I wonder what Mr. Sikorsky would have to say about the field of Astronautics? Awesome?

The developments in model rocketry are, in a word, awesome, too! I remember when I got started in the late 1960's in this hobby/sport that I could hardly believe I could actually build and fly my own rocket. And, I was amazed at the sight of a 15" rocket sailing away on a 15" parachute. That was how I lost the very first rocket I built.

Then I read about rockets that carried eggs, radios, cameras (both movie and still). Someone developed gliders, helicopter recovery (thanks to Mr. Sikorsky). Engines got larger and able to lift more of a payload. It was really something to see and launch a D-powered rocket.

Now look at the engines available. I saw a catalog that had an L engine listed. Of course the price tag was around \$300.00 and about 5 pounds of propellant.

The point is that the hobby/sport continues to develop. We see larger engines, rockets, payloads. The emphasis

continues to be on larger rockets and engines.

I feel we are taking the fun out of the hobby/sport because there is more stress placed upon the modeler to build larger more powerful model rockets thus complicating the launch, and safety factor.

Let's remember to keep it fun. If we really want to have this hobby/sport accepted by those outside the hobby we must be able to show that it is fun, and safe.

The model airplane folks can tell you that bigger is NOT better. There are model airplanes that weigh over 55 pounds and use lawn-mower engines for power. This has increased the noise levels and decreased the safety factor. Flying sites are lost and insurance rate continue to climb. The national organization, Academy of Model Aeronautics went to self-insurance due to these high costs. Our insurance through the NAR is part of this policy.

Remember, KISS? I think it is time we did!

Until next time,

"Keep 'em Flying"

OUR COVER: The top photo is another shot of Wallops Island (VA) Flight Center. It was taken during the field trip in August. (Photo by Bruce Canino)...Below left shows Ted Rabetje's "Double Shuttle" during lift off. Both gliders separate from the booster for a unique sight. Come watch. The last photo (right) is of an old Mach-2 lifting off with D-power. Last two photos by Steve Pantuck.

Speaking of Steve, the photos in our last issue were all taken by our roving reporter/photographer.

IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE

Look for the OFFICIAL BALLOT for the election of club officers....Dr. Bob Kreutz's plans for a 3-engine cluster Sport Model "WARLORD"....and a unique launch rack assignment procedure for contest use....PLUS more clubs news and plans for future activities.

NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS

Since the last issue of the LAUNCH RACK was so late, an extension for Nominations is being made. The new date is 1 December 87. Ballot will appear in the December issue.

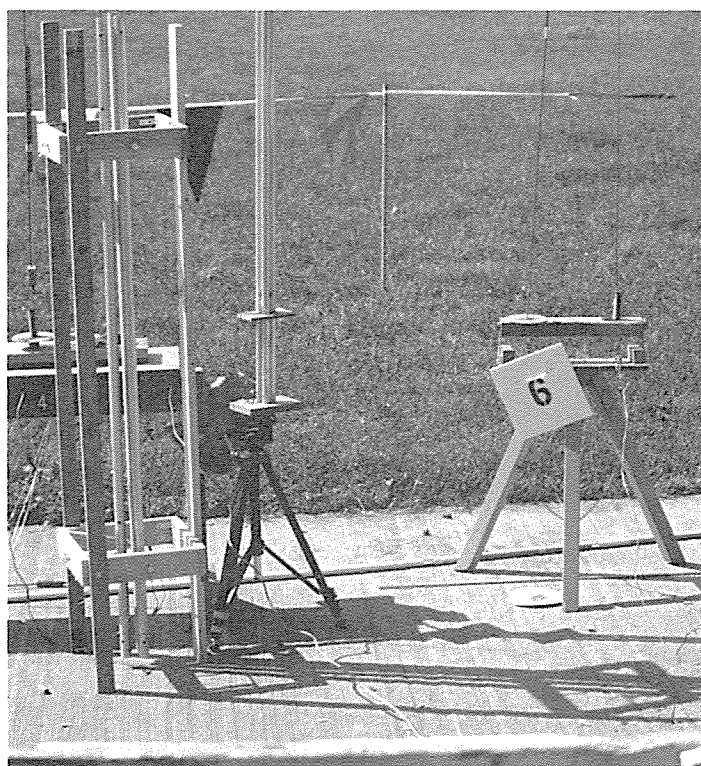
October Sport Launch by Steve Pantuck

Members present at the launch were: Jack, Arnie, Jude, Bob Zabriskie, myself, Ted, Andy Godlewski, Bob de Rosa, Walt Barsce and his sons, Bruce Canino, Rachel and a friend of hers, and Sharon. Visitors included Charlie Sykos, Artie Louszko, who is a friend of Bob de Rosa's and who joined the club by the end of the afternoon, and two of my Saturday school students, Nicholas Tzannanif and Matthew Boral and their families. There were also a number of other fliers and a few spectators whose names I never got, including one boy who showed up with his father late in the afternoon and was glad to discover that there were other people who launched on a regular basis. They're looking forward to seeing us again in November.

Probably the most memorable things about this launch were the weather and the event taking place on the radio controlled airplane field. It was a beautifully bright, sunny day (sunglasses were a necessity), with only a few clouds, but it was also chilly (about fifty-odd degrees) and VERY windy (which didn't make it feel any warmer)! We wound up flying between gusts of wind, and spent a lot of time waiting for relative calm (at least at ground level). Especially during the morning, launching was even trickier, as one of the local fire departments was practicing putting out difficult fires on the next field over, including some gasoline and oil fires, the dark, heavy, smelly smoke from which was blown right down to us seven or eight times during the morning and early afternoon. The one good point about the wind, as several of us commented, was that without it the smoke would have hung on top of us all day instead of being blown away very quickly.

Despite the strong winds, very few, if any, models were lost. I don't remember anyone losing a model, but I may have missed a few launches. However, possibly because of the wind, there were a number of parachutes and streamers which failed to emerge from their body tubes. The nose cones popped out, but the streamer or parachute never showed up. Bob Zabriskie in particular was plagued with this problem, though it happened to other people as well. It was also interesting to watch how hard the models had to fight to get into the air, especially those flown with weaker engines. Even small flaws in fin alignment became obvious watching some of the rockets as they spun or curved during their flights. Most people chose to use either small parachutes or streamers, and the use of streamers on some of the larger and heavier rockets usually recovered by parachute led to some broken fins, but these were easily repaired.

Among the rockets that were flown were: Jack's CMR Tachyon, which is a rear-ejection model, Artie's Sentinel (one of Estes' new fall releases), a three-engine cluster belonging to Bob de Rosa, Sharon's Scorpius, my Big Red Max and Flying Saucer, Jude's scaled-up Phoenix, Arnie's stretched Big Bertha, Bob Zabriskie's Stinger, and a number of Ted's



THIS PHOTO GIVES YOU SOME IDEA OF THE MANY TYPES OF LAUNCH PADS/RACKS THAT ARE USED BY MODEL ROCKETEERS. IN THE REAR AND AT THE LEFT YOU WILL SEE A PART OF THE CLUB'S RACK. IT HAS POSITIONS FOR FIVE ROCKETS. IN THE FRONT OF THAT ARE TWO TOWER LAUNCHERS AND TO THE RIGHT YOU WILL SEE STILL ANOTHER LAUNCH RACK. GOING BACK TO THE CLUB'S RACK FOR A MINUTE, LOOK AT POSITION 4 ON IT YOU WILL SEE A PISTON LAUNCHER. (Photo Steve Pantuck)

SECTION NEWS continued.....

scratch-built kits. There were a lot of other models flown, but these are the ones that stick in my mind. Most people chose to fly using either small parachutes or streamers, even on rockets that are normally recovered via parachute (like Bob and his Stinger), but I chose to fly my Big Red Max with its standard 18 inch [spillholed] parachute, and as a result I wound up chasing it as it bounced along the field after it landed. On its first flight, Jack's Tachyon ejected its 'chute almost immediately after leaving the launch rod, but the second flight was a beauty.

Ted also brought a new scratch-built kit with him, an absolutely amazing Mercury Redstone with a Friendship 7 style capsule. It was $42\frac{1}{2}$ inches tall, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and would have been powered by an FSI F100 if Ted had chosen to fly it, which he wisely decided not to do because of the wind. Maybe next month we'll get to see it fly—I hope so!

That wraps up my report on the October sport launch; remember that November's sport launch is the Sunday after Thanksgiving, so you all have a four day weekend to build and prep your rockets! See you in November.

OPEN BOARD MEETING 27 OCTOBER 1987

Members attending: Ted Rebetje, Joe Maglaty (from Pennsylvania), Bob Zabriskie, Steve Pantuck and Jack Sarhage.

Next Meeting: 24 November 1987 at JFK Library, Hoes Lane, Piscataway.
Begins 7:15 PM.

Minutes of the Last Meeting were read by Jack Sarhage, acting Secretary in absence of Karl Zabriskie. They were accepted M-S-P.

Bob Zabriskie read a letter from Manuel Mejia, Jr. He also gave a report of the High Powered Launch in Pittsburgh, PA, Z-4. The local police closed the launch down.

In absence of the Treasurer the report was presented by Bob Zabriskie with a balance of \$245.00 as of date of meeting.

Main portion of meeting was working up the launch and contest dates for 1988. (These appear elsewhere.)

It was decided to investigate the idea of sponsoring a future NARAM in New Jersey. A committee will be formed to carry out this investigation. First contact will be

by Jack Sarhage to determine what steps are to be followed to accomplish this.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

NEW MEMBERS TO WELCOME

A Big WELCOME to our newest members.

186 Arthur Louszko (S)
28A Abingdon Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10308

187 Bob Jennings (S)
53D Troy Drive
Springfield, NJ 07081

Both Art and Bob joined at the last Sports Launch (25 October 87).

NEW JERSEY PERMIT BALLOT

At this time we would like to report on the results of the New Jersey Permit Ballot that appeared in Issue No. 37 of the LAUNCH RACK.

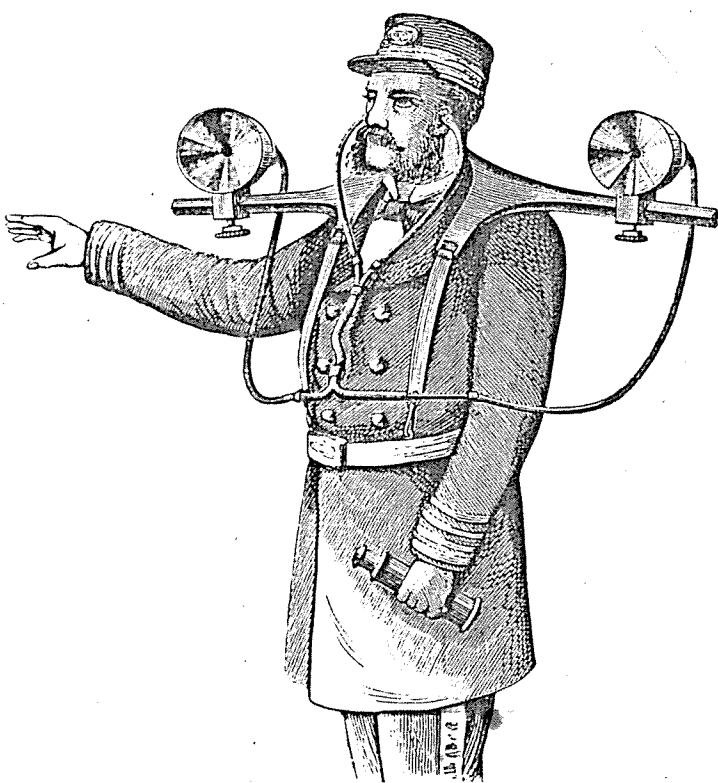
Seven (7) members, or approximately 15% of the membership returned completed ballots.

Four (4) voted to eliminate the New Jersey Permit and adopt the new NAR Safety Code. Option A.

One (1) voted to adopt the new NAR Safety Code, but not eliminate the New Jersey Permit. Option C.

Two (2) voted for Option E (Asking for a suggestion not included in ballot).

The results will be placed upon the agenda of the next Open Board Meeting, November 24, 1987 to decide upon what course of action should be taken to make known the club's position on the New Jersey Permit System.



THIS MODEL ROCKETEER IS DEMONSTRATING THE LATEST IN THERMAL DETECTING EQUIPMENT. THAT IS A MODEL ROCKETEER ISN'T IT??

FOR OUR JUNIOR MEMBERS

This Section of the newsletter will be for the benefit of all our Junior Members. In future issue we hope to present way that will increase your enjoyment of this hobby/sport.

Do you have a problem with some area of model rocketry that you would like help with? Then ask (write your letter to the editor.) and an answer will be published. We need you to get involved and this is an easy way to get started.

Would you like to go on one of the trips or come to a sports launch, but can't because of a transportation problem, of mom and dad are busy that date and can't bring you? Then let me know. We can arrange for one of our members to pick you up and take you home again.

Next month we will have a suggestion on how to increase your model rocketry building skills and enjoy it more.

COUNTDOWN (5-4-3-2-1) a Calendar of Events.....

NOVEMBER

- 24 - Open Board Meeting. JFK Library Hoes Lane, Piscataway at 1915.
- 29 - SPORTS LAUNCH. North Branch Park (NBP) Bridgewater Township 0900.

DECEMBER

- 20 - SPORTS LAUNCH. NBP begins 0900.
- 22 - Open Board Meeting. JFK Library Hoes Lane, Piscataway at 1915. Results of Elections announced.

TENTATIVE 1988 LAUNCH SCHEDULE

- 31 Jan - Sports Launch
- 28 Feb - Sports Launch
- 13 Mar - GODDARD IV - Events to be announced.
- 16 Apr - Wallops Island Field Trip
- 24 Apr - Sports Launch
- 21 May - Fun Competition
- 25 Jun - GSSS-5 Section Meet. Events to be announced.
- 17 Jul - Goddard Space Flight Center Contest and Field Trip.
- 30 Jul - Sports Launch
- 27 Aug - Sports Launch
- 24 & 25 Sep - JOISEE IV Regional Meet. Events to be announced
- 30 Oct - Sports Launch
- 20 Nov - Fun Competition
- 18 Dec - Sports Launch

Put these on your calendar now. You have no excuse to miss any of these activities.



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YONKERS, NEW YORK 10710

Take Route 287 to exit for Route 18, Piscataway. Follow signs for Rutgers Stadium onto Temp. Rte. 18 (River Road). Take jughandle at first light onto Centennial Ave., follow 1 mi.+ and make right onto Hoos Lane; follow 1 mi.+ to John F. Kennedy Library on right. Monthly meetings from 7 to 9 pm.

MEETINGS

202/206 South to Circle
Rt. 78 or Rt. 80 East to 287 South to Exit 13, FROMWEST
287 North to Exit 13, 202/206 South to Circle FROMEAST
202 North to Milltown Rd.; or 206 North to Circle FROMSOUTH
202/206 South to Circle
NJ Turnpike South to Exit 10, 287 North to Exit 13, FROMNORTH
Monthly launches from 10-4.
left after firehouse and 4H Center on right; follow path to open field. Monthly launches from 10-4.
Tops", to right turn onto Milltown Road. Make first State Div., under railroad trestle marked "4H is 2 miles, past Ortho Pharmaceutical and RCA Solid Somerville. Follow 202 South from the circle for junction of NJ Routes 22, 28, 202, and 206, near North Branch Park is very near the traffic circle

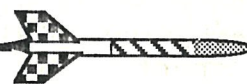
LAUNCHES

DIRECTIONS TO GSSS EVENTS

GSSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Zip _____
Birthdate _____
Phone Number _____
Are you an NAR member? _____
If so, provide NAR number. _____
Membership Category (Check One)
() Junior (Under 16) \$4.00
() Leader (16 through 20) \$6.00
() Senior (21 or over) \$9.00
This is a (renewal) _____ (new) _____ application.
I pledge to abide by the NAR/HIA Safety Code in all my non-professional rocketry activities.
Signed _____ Date _____
Send this application along with check for dues to:
Karl Zabriskie, GSSS Secretary/Treasurer
123 Duer Street
North Plainfield, NJ, 07060

GARDEN STATE SPACEMODELING SOCIETY -- NAR SECTION #439
c/o Jack Sarhage
875 River Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854-5549



TO:

NOVAAR FREE PRESS
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Arlington VA 22204

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c/o B. Robinson
6600 Weatherford Ct.
McLean, Va.
22101

THE LAUNCH RACK

"If you see it in print - it's because it fit."